

MS#300222.01 (MSFT 4969.1)
PATENT**REMARKS**

Applicant has thoroughly considered the Examiner's remarks. The application has been amended to more clearly set forth the invention. Claim 1-48 are presented in the application for further examination. Claims 1, 3, 5, 8, 12, 13, 15-21, 25-27, 31, 33, 34, 39, 43, and 48 have been amended by this Amendment B. Reconsideration of the application claims as amended and in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicant requests that the Examiner review and formally accept the drawings on file.

Response to Rejection Based on 35 USC 103

Claims 1-48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Ginter et al. ("Ginter reference"), U.S. Patent Application 2002/0112171) in view of Levergood et al. ("Levergood reference"), U.S. Patent 5,708,780.

The Levergood reference teaches a system for controlling and monitoring access to network servers. In particular, the user is provided with a session identification which "allows the user to access to the requested file as well as any other files within the present protection domain." (See Abstract of the Levergood reference, emphasis added).

In contrast, the present invention claims, in part:

"for each of the plurality of items of user-specific information required by the client to complete the task request:

determining if the client has consent to access the item of user-specific information required by the client to complete the task request;

selectively obtaining consent, from a party having authority to grant access to the client, for the client to access the item of user-specific information if the client lacks consent as a function of said determining; and

filling the client access request directed to the item if the client has consent to access the item of user-specific information." (See amended claim 1).

MS#300222.01 (MSFT 4969.1)
PATENT

This is completely different from the system in the Levergood reference in which access to all files in a domain is granted as a result of a single request. The present invention represents an improvement to systems such as in the Levergood reference in part by providing greater granularity of security. Further, the present invention, as claimed, is not limited to accessing files within a specific domain. The Ginter reference and the Levergood reference, alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest the invention as claimed in amended claim 1. As such, Applicant requests that the rejection of amended claim 1 under 103(a) be withdrawn.

Independent claims 1, 21, 26, 34, 39, and 43 are patentable over the Ginter reference in view of the Levergood reference for at least the same reasons as amended claim 1 is patentable. As such, Applicant requests that the rejection of amended claims 1, 21, 26, 34, 39, and 43 under 103(a) be withdrawn.

The dependent claims are believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons as the independent claims from which they depend. For example, amended claim 3 recites, in part, "displaying a consent menu to the identified party with authority...." Neither the Ginter reference nor the Levergood reference, taken separately or in combination, teach this limitation. As such, Applicant requests that the rejection of claim 3 under 103(a) be withdrawn.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUDING REMARKS

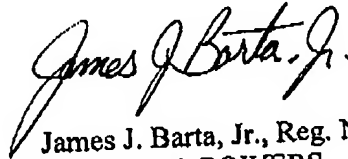
It is felt that a full and complete response has been made to the Office action and, as such, places the application in condition for allowance. Such allowance is hereby respectfully requested. Although the prior art made of record and not relied upon may be considered pertinent to the disclosure, none of these references anticipates or makes obvious the recited invention. The fact that Applicant may not have specifically traversed any particular assertion by the Office should not be construed as indicating Applicant's agreement therewith.

The Applicant wishes to expedite prosecution of this application. If the Examiner deems the claims as amended to not be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited and encouraged to telephone the undersigned to discuss making an Examiner's amendment to place the claims in condition for allowance.

MS#300222.01 (MSFT 4969.1)
PATENT

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or overpayment of any required fee during the entire pendency of this application to Deposit Account No. 19-1345.

Respectfully submitted,



James J. Barta, Jr., Reg. No. 47,409
SENNIGER POWERS
One Metropolitan Square, 16th Floor
St. Louis, Missouri 63102
(314) 231-5400

JJB\cjl

BEST AVAILABLE COPY